



Department of Energy

Nevada Operations Office

P. O. Box 14100

Las Vegas, NV 89114-4100

NOV 18 1986

bcc: J. Dryden, Dir., PASO

A/MOCO RF

A/MOCO (R)

R. Ray

A/MOCO

HB

HBrown:

1kc

11/19/86

T. R. Clark, Manager
D. T. Schueler, Deputy Manager

TRIP REPORT, ENEWETAK AND BIKINI, NOVEMBER 10-15, 1986

PURPOSE

To discuss with the Enewetak Community the uncertainties of DOE's Marshall Islands Programs beyond FY-1987; to suggest that DOI and the community look for alternatives to DOE/H&N for food, agriculture and motor sailer support after FY-1987.

To evaluate LLNL/BARC progress at Bikini to better focus on when radiological data can be processed for final resettlement decisions; to assist the Swedish TV people in ascertaining the efforts and position of DOE are clear, and hopefully, fairly represented.

MAJOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

DOE, DOI, TTPI, RMI, BARC, Swedish Public Television, the Enewetak leadership and legal council were all represented (see attachment for complete list).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

1. The effort to sell the community, their lawyer and DOI on the merits of change after FY-1987 confirmed our "mission impossible." DOI is currently inclined to take the path of least resistance and ask DOE to continue this support on a reimbursable basis, pursuant to requirements of P.L. 99-239, which, in part, mandates federal agencies to provide programs requested by DOI. DOI will seek funding for FY-1988 before the U.S. Congress in March.
2. The main body of LLNL's work can be completed and published by mid FY-1988. I set the groundwork for a DOE/DOI/LLNL/BARC meeting in mid December to begin preparing a joint DOE/DOI report to Congress (due February 1, 1987) on how funding is currently being used and requirements for FY-1988.
3. The Bikini field station and logistical support to the program is excellent.
4. The DOI will formally ask DOE to continue the Enewetak program for them through FY-1987, as they will take over TTPI responsibilities when TTPI goes out of business (expected March 1987). The Enewetak Council will give DOI its input on how programs should continue by January 1, 1987.

DOE
John Rudolph's Files
D-File

Marshall Islands 1986

NOV 18 1986

5. Swedish TV alleges to have come to the Marshalls with no thesis (remember "Half-Life"). They were fully cooperative and I expect a reasonably balanced program. They are sending me a video cassette copy as soon as ready.

6. I briefed Kwajalein Base Commander Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Johnson, TRW, and Under Secretary of Defense and Mrs. Larry Woodruff at Enewetak and Bikini. They had about an hour of ground time at each stop as they tagged along on an AMI flight set up largely to support our mission. Both Woodruff and Johnson had been on Kwajalein on separate business. Others at the Enewetak briefing were Joe Dryden and A. Gurrola. At Bikini, Dr. W. Robison, LLNL.

7. I insisted to DOI that DOE did not want to be asked to be involved in the new Bikini food program (\$500K, FY-1987) because much better alternatives exist.

8. I advised the Enewetak people that DOE is working on an updated Enjebi dose assessment which will be completed and delivered to RMI and the community before July 20, 1987.

ENEWETAK

Our entire delegation received perhaps the warmest welcome I can remember in recent years. We were met at the airport by most of the community, a women's group, the Mayor and Councilmen, all in white shirts and ties. From there it was to the community center for songs, and a very substantial feast, with very friendly remarks. A rather unusual gesture of friendship (in size) due in part, I think, to the change in their political status and to signal us that they appreciated what we were doing and that they really did not want any major changes. (They had been aware that DOE was looking for them to find alternatives for support.)

After several of us (Dryden, Schramm, Robison, and Gurrola) inspected Enjebi the next morning, we met with about 50 leaders and elders of the community. I explained DOE's uncertain Pacific future, the progress heretofore in the program we have been handling over the past six years, and the many trained members now part of the community. I explained that with so many positive things occurring, now would be an excellent time to have DOI and the community find alternate, cost effective ways to provide the assistance. The community was more open-minded on the issue than anyone else. Their lawyer postured and otherwise kept trying to suggest we had some ulterior motives for trying to be relieved of this support. DOI and TTPI could hardly suppress Cheshire grins. They know a change would take some time and effort. There is no incentive to save money since they expect Congress to appropriate the same amount as previous years. Larry Morgan of DOI did say that if DOI put the Bikini food program out on bids, maybe he would include Enewetak. I told him this was a great idea but frankly I will be surprised if they do that. RMI expressed an interest in managing the program if DOI stayed to do the work. I told them we were not interested.

NOV 18 1986

RECOMMENDATION

Assuming DOE has a FY-1988 Pacific Program(s) and we are requested by DOI to continue Enewetak, we do so, continuing to train the community for takeover; continuing to phasedown or close out parts of the program no longer needed; and continuing to press DOI for alternatives. The bottom line is that this is a small (less than \$1 million) program, fully paid for by DOI. It provides some revenue to DOE through use of our ship, thus reducing DOE funding requirements; it does not adversely impact our other programs; and P.L. 99-239 pretty much commits us to supporting this effort if requested.

The community put on another program for us that evening with great amounts of food, singing and speeches of friendship. I conveyed our sincere appreciation. It was very clear to all participants, including the RMI delegation, that there exists a very strong bond between the Enewetak people and the U.S. representatives, cynically because we are providing a service to them but overall I think because the U.S. Government has worked closely and fairly with them for the past decade.

The Mayor said the community would carefully consider my proposition and would give their response to Interior by January 1, 1987. Their lawyer finally got the point that this support was not a DOE responsibility arising from our past testing. Nevertheless, I am sure his pitch to Congress this spring will be to have DOE continue. He and everyone else there knows that there are better ways to do this program but they (other than DOE) all have vested interests otherwise.

I reminded the community that Runit is and always will be off-limits. Also, the coconuts we planted for them on the Northern Islands, at their request, were not to be eaten because of the cesium levels per our predictions.

They were brought up-to-date on the Bikinians resettlement progress and the fact that the experiments at Bikini might well produce methods which could be used to lower the radiative content of Enjebi and northern island food crops in the near future.

BIKINI

Bill Robison from LLNL spent the first morning touring with and briefing the TV people. I accompanied the group and felt the positive was stressed and accepted. Larry Morgan of DOI tagged along with the TV people until he finally got them to interview him. They also got Robison, Dr. Henry Kohn of BARC and me to sit for a camera interview.

Addressees

-4-

NOV 18 1986

Everything went as scheduled and the support from H&N at Bikini was excellent. There were a lot of extra people to take care of on this trip, with facilities taxed to the maximum. However, there were no major hitches.

Original Signed By
HARRY U. BROWN

Harry U. Brown
Assistant to the Manager
for Off-Continent Operations

Enclosure:
List of Participants

cc:
J. H. Dryden, Dir., PASO, Honolulu, HI

LIST OF PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANTS AT ENEWETAK

USDOE

Harry U. Brown
Joseph H. Dryden
Sheila A. Schramm
William D. Jackson

USDOJ

Larry Morgan, Dir., Public Affairs
& Legislative Liaison, OTIA

TTPI

Charles Jordan, Dir., Capital Improvements & Planning
Linda Parkinson, Dir., Food Services Program

RMI

Peter Oliver, Spec. Asst. to Chief Sec. for Compact Implementation
Nathan Karben, Sec., Ministry of Interior & Outer Island Affairs
Paul Finch, Staff Attorney, AG Office
Saeko Shoniber, Dir., Food Services

Enewetak

Senator Ishmael John
Mayor Hertel John
Jack Jorban, Consultant to Enewetak (and Senator John)

H&N

A. E. Gurrola, Vice-Pres., H&N
Joel Maimon, Dir., Tech. Services (PO)
Kent Hiner, Sr. Proj. Coordinator, Marshall Islands
Reynold deBrum, DOE Rep., Majuro

LLNL

Dr. William Robison